

ROAD FROM GREAT LAKES TO NORFOLK

Big Railroad Deal Consummated Before Corporation Commission

ROGERS INTERESTS TO EXTEND LINES

Charter Issued Changing Name of Tidewater and Deepwater to "Virginian" and Increasing Capital Stock to \$33,500,000—New System.

One of the most important and far-reaching railroad transactions ever made in Virginia was consummated before the Corporation Commission yesterday when a charter was issued changing the name of the Tidewater Railway Company to the Virginian Railway Company, and increasing the capital stock from \$100,000 to \$33,500,000.

Captain Thomas D. Ransom, of Staunton, vice-president of the Tidewater, who will occupy a like position with the Virginian Company, brought the papers before the commission and secured the new charter.

The increasing of the capital stock by such a heavy amount brought in a comfortable additional charter fee of \$1,500. Captain Ransom also secured a charter for the Virginian Terminal Railway Company of Norfolk, and on this he paid a charter fee of \$450. The State having got from this source alone in one day the sum of \$2,000.

Significant Move.
The issuing of these two charters is a significant move in the railroad world, and it means a great deal more than can be seen at a glance.

The Tidewater Railway, which is being rapidly constructed from a point in Giles county, on the West Virginia line, to deep water at Norfolk, connects with what is known as the Deepwater Railway, which is now operating through rich coal fields in West Virginia. The object of the new concern is to merge these two lines into one great system, as the Virginian Railway Company, which it is understood, proposes ultimately to establish and operate a through all-rail line from the Great Lakes to a deep water terminal at Norfolk.

The Virginian Terminal Railway Company will take over and operate the old Tidewater terminals at Norfolk.

Now in Operation.
The Deepwater Railway of West Virginia, has been completed and is being operated, and the Tidewater is already operating on about eighty miles of its finished track out of Norfolk.

Work is being pushed on the entire line, and miles and miles of track are completed in various sections of Virginia through which the road will run. Both the properties are financed and practically, if not wholly owned by H. H. Rogers, of New York, the Great Standard oil king and his evident determination to consolidate them and extend the line under the name of the Virginian Railway Company, as far North as the Great Lakes, will mean the inauguration of another powerful railway system in this country.

The new name "Virginian" is certainly a fitting one for the Tidewater and Deepwater companies, taken together, they operate wholly within the two Virginias.

To Be Great System.
The jump in the capital stock from \$100,000 to \$33,500,000 is remarkable, and it is well understood that the merging of the two Rogers properties under the new charter just issued will be the first move. The extension to the Great Lakes is expected to follow.

The officers of the Virginian Railway Company, as named in the charter, are those of the present Tidewater Company. They follow:

President, William N. Page, Ansted, Va.
Vice-President, Thomas D. Ransom, Staunton.
Treasurer, George H. Church, 44 Wall Street, New York.
Assistant Treasurer, John J. Corbett, Norfolk.
Secretary, Herbert J. Taylor, Staunton.
Assistant Secretary, Raleigh C. Page, Ansted, Va.
Directors, the above named and William H. Lenders, Henry A. Walker and Charles M. East, Staunton.

Enlarge Terminals.

The charter of the Virginian Terminal Railway Company issued at the same time is significant. It very probably means the enlargement and improvement of the present terminal facilities of the Tidewater Railway at Norfolk, which properties it will take over and operate at once.

The officers of the Terminal Company, whose home offices will be in Norfolk are: President, Walter H. Taylor; Vice-President, W. H. T. Loyall; Secretary, William H. White, Jr.; all of Norfolk; Directors—R. C. Taylor, Jr., Robert J. Baldwin, B. T. Elmore and J. W. Wilcox.

The capital stock is: maximum, \$500,000; minimum, \$1,000, and the object as stated in the charter are to own and operate a terminal railway at Norfolk.

Captain Ransom, who has been indefatigable in his work in connection with the building of the Tidewater road, was at the offices of the commission for some time yesterday securing the new charters and attending other matters in connection with the company.

He is stopping at the Richmond Hotel, and will leave today for a trip to the Bermuda Islands, where he will spend several weeks in much-needed rest.

OWNER OF RAILROADS IN GREAT NEW SYSTEM



H. H. ROGERS.

RAT BIT DAUGHTER; PROFESSOR SUES LINE FOR \$90,000

Yale Man Labels Steamship La Gascogne on Account of Ill Treatment.

NEW YORK, March 8.—Libel in the sum of \$90,000 was filed to-day in the United States District Court against the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the steamship La Gascogne, its officers and crew, by John Wurtz, professor in Yale law school, in the sum of \$15,000, for mental and physical anguish on his own part, and \$25,000 for his wife and his daughters, Eleanor and Laura.

The libel alleges that on the trip from Havre to this port, between the 15th and the 24th of last September, Professor Wurtz and his family were exposed to the rudest sort of treatment and ill food. It alleges that on information that there were no first cabin accommodations, he, with his wife and daughters, were booked in the second cabin, but that within two hours of leaving port they found that they were overruled by 1,400 steerage passengers. The accusations include one that the daughter of the professor was bitten by a rat in her bed.

KILLED HIMSELF AT WOMAN'S FEET

Madly in Love With Widow Who Discarded Him, Man Ends His Life.

CLEVELAND, O., March 8.—Repulsed by the woman with whom he was madly in love, Henry De Burt, a prominent contractor, fired a bullet into his head while standing in the doorway of the woman's home, No. 1116 Prospect Avenue, one of Cleveland's fashionable residence streets, this afternoon. De Burt, who was engaged to a woman in a dying condition.

In De Burt's trunk were found many letters from the object of his affections, Mrs. Florence Patterson; but it appeared that recently she had discarded him. This afternoon she answered a call to her door, but seeing De Burt she closed it in his face. In an instant a shot rang out, and Mrs. Patterson opened the door again to find the man lying in a pool of blood, the result of a ghastly wound in the temple.

Mrs. Patterson, it is said, has been separated from her husband, and she is not widely known here.

GUESSER AWARDED A \$25,000-PRIZE

Told the Exact Number of Persons at World's Fair, But Others Needed Money.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 8.—After two years of litigation, decision was rendered yesterday by Judge McMillin, in the Circuit Court at Clayton, awarding to M. Logan Guthrie, of Fulton, Mo., the prize of \$25,000 in a contest to the person who entered the nearest guess of the total number of paid admissions into the World's Fair. Guthrie guessed 12,804,616, which was announced as the exact number of admissions. Several other claimants appeared, and payment of the prize was held up, pending settlement of the different claims.

Guthrie instituted suit in 1905. Finally the other claimants dismissed their claims, and the court awarded the money to Guthrie.

ESTRANGEMENT IN THAW FAMILY

Prisoner's Relatives Desire Him to Divorce Evelyn if Freed.

NESBIT TRIES TO WARN SISTER

Trial Postponed Until Monday to Allow Jerome to Prepare Himself—Hummel, Nesbit and Young Mrs. Thaw to Be Called.

NEW YORK, March 8.—The defense in the Thaw case rested to-day immediately after the convening of court, and an adjournment thereupon was ordered until Monday morning next at 10:30 o'clock. District Attorney Jerome said that, while he had been informally notified yesterday afternoon of the change in the plans of the defendant's counsel, he had come to court to-day expecting to be confronted by additional expert testimony as to Thaw's state of mind. His witnesses were not ready, he added, and it was upon this representation, and with the freely granted consent of the defense, that the adjournment was taken.

The court proceedings occupied less than five minutes, and District Attorney Jerome returned at once to his office and began preparing his campaign of rebuttal testimony. Almost his first move was to have a subpoena served upon Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, requiring her to produce in court any letters she may have in her possession written by Stanford White.

The district attorney also had May MacKenzie notified to be in court Monday prepared to go upon the witness stand. She is the intimate friend of Thaw's wife, and during the first stages of the trial the two were inseparable. Lately, however, Miss MacKenzie has been seen but seldom about the Criminal Courts building.

Jerome Is Uncertain.
Just what District Attorney Jerome intends to prove, or will be allowed to prove, in rebuttal, remains as deep a mystery as ever. The prosecutor himself is probably at a loss to know how far he can go in attacking Evelyn Thaw's story and in adducing evidence tending to contradict and discredit her. The trial of evidence invoked in the Thaw case differs materially from those in any recent murder trial in this jurisdiction, and it has been evident from the first that the attorneys on both sides have been feeling their way cautiously.

Shyster Hummel to Appear.
District Attorney Jerome undoubtedly will again summon Abraham Hummel, a lawyer, to testify as to the affidavit Evelyn Nesbit is alleged to have signed, charging Thaw with cruelty because "she would not tell" about Stanford White. The prosecutor attempted to introduce this testimony by interrogating Mrs. Thaw's narrative, but the testimony was barred at that time. Mr. Jerome believes that upon rebuttal Justice Fitzgerald will allow him a much wider latitude than was granted on cross-examination.

Howard Nesbit was with the district attorney to-day, and it is said he will be called to the stand to testify that his sister told him Thaw had treated her cruelly while abroad in 1902 because she again "would not tell" about Stanford White. Mr. Jerome hopes by the brother to corroborate the testimony he expects to elicit from Abraham Hummel, the latter being under indictment at the present time for alleged subornation of perjury in the Dodge-Morse divorce trial.

To Jury on Friday.
With all the witnesses here enumerated, and many others under subpoena, Mr. Jerome took to-day to his prediction of last night that the case might be given to the jury by Friday.

He would not modify what he said yesterday to the effect that in the present state of the evidence he would surely let the case go to the jury, nor ask for a lunacy commission. This determination on the district attorney's part pleases Thaw's lawyers and the defendant himself, who all along has feared the asylum for the criminal insane far more than a verdict as to his guilt or innocence under the statutes.

Despite Mr. Jerome's hope for a determination of the long drawn out case before the next week few of those who have kept track of the progress of the trial are willing to hazard a prediction that the end is less than two weeks away.

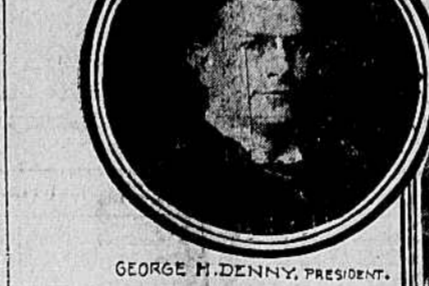
There were many rumors current to-

(Continued on Second Page.)

UNIVERSITY WHERE MEMORIAL WILL BE ERECTED AND PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATION



WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY



GEORGE H. DENNY, PRESIDENT.

NEW COMPANY OF BLUES ORGANIZED

Enthusiastic Meeting Held Last Night in Assembly Hall at Murphy's Hotel.

KENT ELECTED CAPTAIN
John Randolph Tucker First Lieutenant and James H. Drake, Jr., Second Lieutenant.

Organization of a military command to be known as Company C, of the Richmond Light Infantry Blues was effected at a meeting held in the assembly hall of Murphy's Hotel last night by about fifty-five representative young men of Richmond. Captain Cloyd B. Kent, former commander of Company B, of the Blues' Battalion, was elected captain of the new company by acclamation, as was Mr. John Randolph Tucker, first lieutenant. Mr. James H. Drake, Jr., was chosen second lieutenant by a handsome vote, and the selection was made unanimous a moment later.

The new company is distinguished at its inception for its personnel, which is comparable to any other military organization that was ever formed in this city. Only two or three men who were instrumental in its organization were transferred from the two existing companies, but among the ranks of Company C are many men of extensive military training and experience. Something like fourteen lawyers, one or two doctors and young men prominent in various vocations were enrolled as members.

Much Interest Taken.
Mr. A. H. Sands was called to preside at the meeting, and Mr. William Crump Tucker was chosen secretary. Thereafter, by a section of the commissioned officers was gone into. Unusual harmony and good fellowship characterized the organization, and demonstrated at once the congeniality of the men assembled. There were present at the meeting, besides those mentioned, many of the officers and men of the two older companies of the battalion, including Lieutenant Correll, of the battalion staff; Lieutenant Shaffer, Lieutenant Hazen, and others.

The new company selected Thursday night as drill night for the present, and will meet on those evenings until further notice. About fifty-five signed up for enlistment last night. As soon as authority is given for the mustering in of the new command its officers will be examined for their commissions and the company will begin active existence.

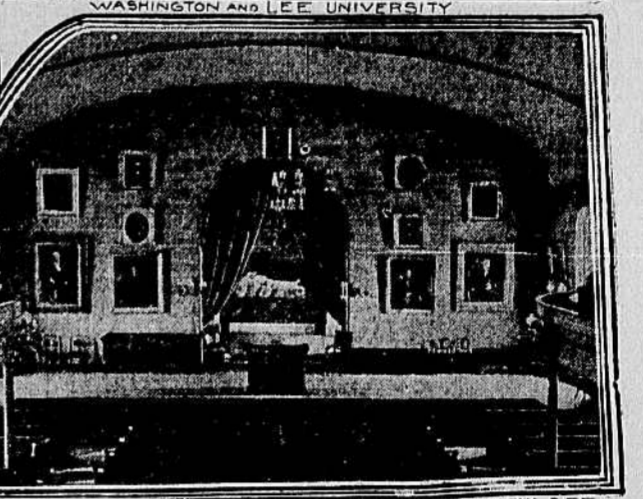
The New Officers.

Captain Cloyd B. Kent is a former member and ex-captain of Company B, of the Blues, and is one of the most efficient military men in the battalion. He is a native of Southwest Virginia, being a son of the late Lieutenant Governor J. H. Kent. His unanimous selection with so much excellent material available, is a high compliment to his qualities as a soldier and a man.

First Lieutenant John Randolph Tucker is a member of the bar of this city, a son of Hon. Henry St. George Tucker, former member of Congress and now president of the Jamestown Exposition Company, a grandson of Hon. John Randolph Tucker, Virginia's jurist and statesman, and of Colonel William Preston Johnston, soldier and educator, and a great-grandson of General Albert Sidney Johnston. He is a fine soldier and is one of the most popular members of the battalion.

Mr. James H. Drake, Jr., second lieutenant, is a member of the Richmond bar, and has been active in the Civic Improvement League and other movements looking to the betterment of Richmond. He is a son of Mr. James H. Drake, assistant-general freight agent of the Southern Railway, and is a gentleman of culture and of enthusiasm and energy, having been active in the organization of the company.

The officers of the company will not give out for publication a list of the members of the company for the present.



INTERIOR OF CHAPEL SHOWING RECURRENT STATUE OF GEN. LEE.

MILLIONAIRE WAS POISONED

Enough Prussic Acid Found in Stomach to Kill Six Men.

MYSTERY SURROUNDS CASE

Wife Says Husband Was Ill With Grip and Took Cough Mixture.

NEW YORK, March 8.—An autopsy held to-day by Coroner's Physician O'Hanlon, disclosed, it was subsequently stated, that Leonidas Preston, a millionaire, who died suddenly yesterday at the Hotel Cumberland, had enough hydrocyanic poison in his stomach to kill six men.

Coroner Harburger immediately reported the case to the police and detectives, who proceeded to work upon several mysterious circumstances connected with the case.

Mr. Preston was New York manager for the Timken Railroad Bearing Axle Company, and had an office in West Forty-sixth Street. He died while telephoning to some business acquaintance.

Mr. Preston's wife told the coroner that Mr. Preston returned from a business trip to New Orleans two weeks ago, suffering from a severe attack of grip, complicated with bronchial troubles. Against the advice of his physician, he insisted upon transacting business.

Suspicious Symptoms.

Because the doctor could not definitely state the cause of death, Coroner Harburger determined to hold an autopsy. Dr. O'Hanlon observed as soon as he reached the stomach unmistakable traces of powerful poison.

It appears that when Mr. Preston died, Wm. R. Timken, the head of the concern of which Preston was New York manager, Leonard Gray and Edward E. Hewitt were in the hotel office.

Preston answered in person over the telephone, telling them to "come right up." When two minutes later they reached his suite Preston was dead.

They had sent up word that they wished to see him.

Preston answered in person over the telephone, telling them to "come right up." When two minutes later they reached his suite Preston was dead.

Was Very Wealthy.

Mr. Preston came to New York from Dallas, Texas, some years ago. He was said to be the sole heir to a fortune of \$2,000,000 in New Orleans, and to have amassed another fortune of \$1,000,000 in business. He was forty-six years old, tall, muscular and very strong.

Mr. Preston's friends have asserted the coroner that his business affairs were in good shape, and that there was no possible motive for suicide other than possible temporary insanity, brought on by illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston took quarters at the Cumberland last September. They had no children, but had adopted a little boy. Dr. English, house physician of the Cumberland, said that the millionaire died in terrible convulsions. Dr. Millett, another physician called in, stated that when he arrived Mrs. Preston was hysterical. She said that the only medicine her husband had taken was a cough mixture.

THIRTY-FIVE KILLED BY DYNAMITE EXPLOSION

EL PASO, TEX., March 8.—Advices received from Chihuahua, Mexico, to-day state that thirty-five men, women and children were killed at San Andres, twenty leagues from there, yesterday by the accidental explosion of a large quantity of dynamite.

ERECT MEMORIAL TO GREAT LEE

Association Organized at Meeting Held Here Yesterday.

ENTIRE COUNTRY TO CONTRIBUTE TO FUND

Dr. Hamilton Wright Mabie Pays Notable Tribute to Southern Commander—Governor Pledges Support to the Movement.

DR. MABIE'S TRIBUTE TO CHARACTER OF LEE.

"The public men of this country are those who shape its destinies and inspire its ethical life. Among the educational forces of this country none is superior to General Lee himself. He is no longer one of the heroes of the South, but of America. His stainless life was worth more than millions to the cause of education. The time is coming when the statue of General Lee will stand in the cities of the North as well as of the South, and it is already ripe for this recognition of his greatness."—Dr. Hamilton Wright Mabie, in address at Chamber of Commerce yesterday afternoon.

At a meeting thoroughly representative of the patriotism, culture and scholarship of this city, and to a great extent of the State, a preliminary organization of the Lee Memorial Association was effected yesterday afternoon, the purpose being to raise at least \$100,000 with which to establish and endow the Robert E. Lee Memorial chair of American history at Washington and Lee University, and to rehabilitate the Lee memorial chapel at that institution.

Dr. George H. Denny, head of Washington and Lee University, was chosen president; Mrs. Kate Pleasant Minor, of this city, secretary, and Dr. John L. Campbell, treasurer of Washington and Lee University, and to be the treasurer of this association. This trio are to select vice-presidents for each of the Southern and Eastern States and a board of directors, and when these selections have been made a charter will be applied for, and a national movement will be inaugurated to raise by popular subscriptions the amount stated and devote it to the purposes indicated.

All May Contribute.

Of the total sum \$25,000 is to be used in rehabilitating the chapel wherein rests the superb recumbent figure of Lee, the masterpiece of Sculptor Edward V. Valentine, of this city. The movement is to be as broad as the continent and is designed to enlist the aid of all admirers of the genius and character of Robert E. Lee in America, or in the South, and to secure the participation of men in every section are to be invited to participate in the final organization, the university having distinguished and influential alumni in every State of the Union. As a lady expressed it yesterday, the people of the North are not going to be asked to contribute anything, but will be allowed to do so if they desire.

The meeting yesterday afternoon was characterized by several addresses, which, though extemporaneous, were graceful and brilliant specimens of oratory, all the more admirable by reason of their spontaneity. Dr. Denny, president of the university, made the first of these in his exposition of the scope and purposes of the movement. Dr. Hamilton Wright Mabie, associate editor of the Outlook, scholar and litterateur, thrilled all present by his noble tribute to Lee, and Governor Swann followed with an eloquent eulogium upon Dr. Mabie's address, and the appointment of the Lee Memorial Association, Mrs. Kate Pleasant Minor, in her enthusiastic appeal for prompt and vigorous action in the consummation of the plan, kindled enthusiasm in her hearers, and was made especially so, as a recognition of her zeal and interest in the movement. Colonel W. E. Cutshaw, Rev. Dr. John William Jones, Rev. Dr. James Power Smith and others also warmly commended the movement.

Tribute to Lee.

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Dr. Smith at 5 P. M. in the assembly room of the Chamber of Commerce, and on his motion Judge George L. Christian was chosen to preside. Dr. Smith then suggested that the distinguished young president of Washington and Lee was in the room, and called upon him.

Dr. Denny paid a beautiful tribute to General Lee and his service as president of the university, and in this connection directed attention to the need of the rehabilitation of the Lee Memorial chapel at the university, and the appointment of assembling there certain Lee relics, and adding still further to the historic interest of the university which bears General Lee's name. He referred especially to the old flag of the Fourth Virginia Infantry, in which the Liberty Hall Volunteers, composed of students of old Washington College, was embraced, and paid a splendid tribute to that command.

The movement to establish a chair of American history at the university had originated before the last celebration of Lee's birthday, he said, but now that the movement had taken on such a broad scope he suggested lines of organization and extension by means of the alumni of the university all over the South, and, indeed, all over the United States. He spoke of the value of such a chair, and especially of the value of General Lee's life and example.

NO WHITE LIGHT IN GAY PARIS

Electricians Strike, and the City Is Clothed in Funereal Blackness.

THE THEATRES IN DARKNESS

Newspapers Get Out Only Make-shift Editions of Two and Four Pages.

PARIS, March 8.—A sudden, virtually unanimous and unexpected strike on the part of practically all the electricians of Paris at 6 o'clock this afternoon resulted in the almost complete paralysis of the business of the city by the time night had fallen. The inconvenience was very great. A number of theatres had to forego their performances, several of the evening newspapers were unable to get out their editions and the great department stores were hurriedly emptied. The strikers demanded the fulfillment of the promises to improve their condition, which they claim were made to them last July.

Almost all the theatres, including the opera and other of the subsidized houses, were compelled to put up announcements that there would be no performances, and that the money would be refunded at the door.

Paris in Darkness.

Only four of the minor variety halls were open. The boulevards were practically in darkness, except for the glimmering of a few gas jets.

The many cafes and restaurants presented weird pictures with flaring candles on all the small round tables. It was impossible to get out the later editions of the afternoon newspapers, and the offices of the morning papers were scenes of confusion. The typesetting machines and printing presses were at a standstill. Only the Parisian will appear in its full size to-morrow morning, because it possesses its own electric plant. The proprietors of all the other morning papers, while hoping against hope that the electric current soon will be restored, do not now see any way of getting out other than two or four-page papers, set up by hand and printed on improvised plants.

The electricians claim that under concessions recently accorded the company by the municipal Council they are entitled to an eight-hour day and old age pensions, which the company has denied.

COUNT THE VOTES. SAY SUPREME COURT

By Unanimous Voice Court Decides Against McClellan in Election Case.

NEW YORK, March 8.—By a unanimous vote, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court to-day decided against Mayor George B. McClellan in his legal fight to prevent quo warranto proceedings for a recount of the votes cast in the New York city election of 1905. There was added to the decision a recommendation that the questions involved be passed up to the Court of Appeals for a final ruling.

The Appellate Division's view is that the action of a former Attorney-General, Julius A. Mayer, in refusing to institute the recount proceedings, did not serve as a bar to such action on the part of the present Attorney-General, who undertook the suit at the request of William R. Hearst.